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Title: Need to supply additional power to Tamil Nadu from Central pool.

SHRI S. SEMMALAI (SALEM): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Sir. The State of Tamil Nadu is reeling under an acute power shortage. To tide over the crisis, the hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu is taking number of steps. Besides, some projects are yet to be cleared by the Centre. An important project, namely, Kundah Pumped Storage Hydroelectric Project is one among them. The project is awaiting for the clearance of Central Water Commission. Even after getting NoC from Geological Survey of India and Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, the Central Water Commission has not yet given its clearance.

The Cauvery water dispute is cited as reason. Sir, this project is nothing to do with the Cauvery river dispute. This is pumped storage scheme. There is no consumption of water or diversion of water. The project is going to be implemented by utilizing the water in a recycling method. It depends entirely on the catchments in Tamil Nadu. My revered leader, hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Puratchi Thalaivi has taken up this issue with the Centre several times. Considering all these facts, I urge the Central Government to clear the project immediately.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I appeal to the hon. Minister of Water Resources to look into this issue and to get the project cleared at once.